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Elizabeth Miller  
Elizabeth Miller

October 16, 2000  
Date

ATTY DOCKET NO. 10990638-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation Application of:

Karen W. Shannon

Group Art Unit: 1635

Cont. of Serial No.: 09/322,692

Examiner: Janet L. Epps

Filed: 05/28/99

Title: METHOD FOR LINEAR mRNA AMPLIFICATION

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

✓  
Please amend the claims of the present continuation application, by canceling all of claims 1-31 and replacing them with the following new claims 32-40:

- SUBC27  
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32. (NEW) A kit for use in linearly amplifying mRNA, said kit comprising:  
an oligonucleotide promoter-primer comprising an RNA polymerase promoter sequence; and  
instructions to convert the mRNA to cDNA, and to then transcribe the cDNA into RNA in the presence of a reverse transcriptase that is rendered incapable of RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity during this transcription step.
33. (NEW) A kit according to claim 32 wherein the instructions include an instruction for inactivating the reverse transcriptase by heating.